

February 18 1861

In the name of God Amen. I Jonathan East Eason of the County of Martin in the State of North Carolina calling to mind the uncertainty of my life and the certainty of death so disposes & bequeaths of such worldly estate as God in his great providence has blessed me with in the following manner & form —

1st as to my mortal body, after death, I desire it to be committed to the earth from whence it came in such manner as my executor may think proper. My soul I commend to the tender mercies of that great and beneficent being who gave it to me and as touch-
ing such worldly substance as I am or may be blessed with at my death I dispose of the same as follows viz. First I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Martha Eason all my estate & property choses in action & possession including every thing and property I own or may own at my death of every kind character & description every thing I may possess or be entitled to is hereby intended to be included to her and her heirs & assigns forever. I hereby nominate & appoint my wife ^{Martha} sole Executrix to this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all others. Signed sealed published & declared by J. E. Eason in presence of witnesses before signed by writing Martha

Test
Simon J. Perry
Wm. C. Elton

J. E. Eason
by S. J. Perry

State of North Carolina

Martin County April April Term 1861

A paper writing purporting to be and contain the last will and testament, of Jonathan E. Eason deceased dated 15 Feb 1861 attested by Simon J. Perry & Wm. C. Elton is exhibited in open court by Martha Eason Executrix therein named and the due execution thereof proved by the oath and examination of Wm. C. Elton one of the subscribing witnesses thereto Simon J. Perry being absent, in the room. Upon Motion it is ordered that the said paper writing be recorded and filed at the same time comes Martha Eason the executrix named in said will and qualified as such according to law

I John J. Sherrod of the County of Martin and State of North Carolina being of sound disposing mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to

1st I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Mary Ann Sherrod five hundred dollars to bear interest from the day of my death
2nd I devise to my daughter Mary Ann Sherrod the mansion tract of land I purchased of Joshua Taylor containing six hundred acres more or less and another tract adjoining the same I purchased of Joseph Rouse containing two hundred acres more or less to her and her heirs forever subject to the conditions and stipulations hereinafter made
3rd My daughter Mary Ann has now my note for thirty five hundred dollars which I gave her some time since which she is to surrender without payment to my executor and then the lands above devised to her and the residue of my real estate are to be valued by three disinterested persons to be chosen by my executor and the whole of my estate of every description is to be equally divided between my said daughter Mary Ann and my daughter Nancy Best and Betty Boyce and my daughter Mary Ann is to account on said division for the value of the said land devised to her, and if the said division to her shall exceed the one third in value of my whole estate, then she is to account out of said land to my other daughters a sufficient sum to make them all equal in value of course excluding from this ~~division~~ the five hundred dollars bequeathed to my daughter Mary Ann by the first clause of this will, it being my desire and intention to give her that sum more than my other daughters in consequence of her dutiful conduct to me in my old age
Lastly I nominate and appoint my friend Asa Biggs Executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all other wills or testaments made by me

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this 20th day of February A.D. 1861

Signed, sealed, published & declared by the testator John J. Sherrod to be his last will & testament in my presence, who sign the same at his request in his presence & in the presence of each other
J. B. Coffield
R. C. Brown

(Signed) John J. Sherrod